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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/494,859
Filing Date	February 1, 2000
First Named Inventor	Stephen R. Beaton et al.
Group Art Unit	3728
Examiner Name	David Fidei
Attorney Docket Number	VTN-458

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice*, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
(any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other MPEP 609 D, Stmt. Under 1.97(e), Form 1449, PCT Int'l Search Rpt

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2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. ☐ Other

3. Fees - The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 10-0750.
- i. ☐ RCE fee is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of Time (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☒ Other EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 065839010US
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (print/type)	Ruby T. Hope	Registration No.	34,350
Signature	<i>Ruby T. Hope</i>	Date	5/5/03

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop 313(c), Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: May 5, 2003

Name (print/type)	Karen Hall-Morgan	Date	May 5, 2003
Signature	<i>Karen Hall-Morgan</i>		

See # 20 for fee